

REMARKS

Claims 116 and 120 have been amended as kindly suggested by Examiner Mehta and a new Abstract has been incorporated, also adopting the Examiner's suggestions. In addition, claims 116 and 120 have been amended to obviate the rejection over Fire. Support for this amendment is found on page 4 of the specification at lines 9-11 which describes SRMs as having minus 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 nucleotides from 25 nucleotides. Thus, each of the lengths set forth in claims 116 and 120 is supported by the specification.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner exercising his discretion to enter these proposed amendments, though made after final, as they overcome the outstanding grounds for rejection and place the claims in a position for allowance.

Taking the comments in the outstanding Office action in turn, the Abstract was objected to because of the term "consisting essentially of" and applicants have adopted the Examiner's suggestion to replace this assertedly new matter with "are." The Abstract is further amended to substantially reflect the terms used in the present claims when referring to SRMs, SARMs, and SSRMs.

Similarly, claims 116-124 were rejected based on an objection to the same terminology. The Examiner kindly suggested replacing "consisting essentially of" with "are" in claim 116 and this has been done and "consisting essentially" has been deleted from claim 120. As these were the Examiner's suggestions, it is believed that entry of at least this portion of the amendment should be granted.

